



• NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION •

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

July 2009

Newsletter of the Valley Center Neighborhood Association

VCNA EVENTS CALENDAR

Ice Cream Social: Sunday, July 26, 2:00-5:00 at Mary and Geza's house, 107 Digby.

Monthly meeting: Tuesday, July 28th; 7:00 pm at Rush Pavilion.

Annual Croquet Tournament: To be announced...really soon...get your croquet skills sharpened up!

Neighborhood Watch Startup

In coordination with the Project Safe Neighborhood Project and the Weed and Seed Program, Lt. Chris Weaver presented information to almost 50 VCNA members present at the June 30th meeting, which is our largest turnout in 3 years!!! Obviously, many VCNA members are committed to this effort!

- You can help report crime by keeping your eyes open when out on a walk or even if you see something from your house. Criminal activity or suspicious activity should always be reported to the police. (807-1200)
- Since most of us know our neighbors, we join with our local patrolman by watching for things that are out of the ordinary. This network of eyes and ears that *really* know the area are invaluable to the police.
- While "WeTip" is anonymous, the police can respond more quickly if you call them directly. When reporting something, taking down a license plate number (if related to a car) or other pertinent facts is very helpful. If you are uncomfortable calling the police directly, call the WeTip hotline.
- NEXT STEPS for organizing a Neighborhood Watch: We have 6 neighbors who have volunteered to attend the initial set of meetings hosted by the LPD. The meetings will be held on Thursdays, July 30th, Aug 6th, and Aug. 13th. The volunteers will then report back to the entire VCNA membership.
- Block captain volunteers are being sought. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER AS A BLOCK CAPTAIN, PLEASE CONTACT THE VCNA.

Stay tuned for more information as this program rolls out to make us a closer, safer, friendlier neighborhood!

Next Meeting

Tuesday, July 28th - 7pm at Rush Pavilion

Don Emmert, Water Quality Educator from the Tippecanoe County Soil and Water Conservation District will give a presentation about **best management practices for homeowners** with regard to reducing storm water run-off in an effort to help **reduce flooding**. This topic affects everyone in the VCNA, just not our neighbors on Valley Street and it's good for the environment in general!

Free Ice Cream!



Mary and Geza are hosting a NEIGHBORHOOD WIDE Ice Cream Social! If you're not on our email list and didn't get the evite already, here are the details:

Host: Valley Center Neighborhood Association
Location: Mary & Geza's back yard, 107 Digby Rd
When: Sunday, July 26, 2:00PM to 5:00PM

Come join the Valley Center Neighborhood Association for the annual ice cream social!

Bring a lawn blanket or lawn chair if you have one - but no problem if you don't. Just come enjoy the fellowship and ice cream in an informal afternoon of fun in the shade.

The event will be rescheduled in the event of rain. Please RSVP to Mary (mary.pilotte@comcast.net or 418-2747) so we can plan for your attendance. 13 adults and 5 kids have already RSVP'd for this very fun, **free** event!

Grove Street Sidewalk Project update

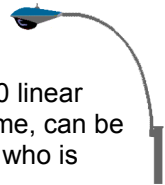
Bids open July 21st and should be awarded by July 28th or latest by Aug. 4th. Work should begin within 30 days.

The project will include 1577 sq.ft. of sidewalk; a plantable retaining wall, new curb and gutter; 2 trees removed and 2 trees replaced; 2 stairs w/ hand rails and handrails along sidewalk, and built in garden boxes on the retaining wall.

The initial CDBG grant has been increased from \$75,000 to \$138,000 by the Mayor's Office. Thanks to Mayor Roswarski for his continued support of the VCNA! A dedication and block party is being planned upon completion of this project and is slated for later this fall.

Street Lighting update

Members of the VCNA met with city offices in June. The inventory of lighting has been completed and will be turned in to the city. It will take a while to increase the lights in our area, but we are optimistic that lights will be installed where needed by spring/summer 2010. City codes call for lights to be working and located at the head and end of streets and alley ways, with lights located every 200 linear feet. VCNA Member, Monte Kemper reports that street lights, which are an excellent deterrent to crime, can be purchased by individual homeowners through Duke Energy for about \$10.00 a month. Any neighbor who is interested in this option should contact Duke Energy directly.



Engaging Landlords

Jodie Ellis and John Lewandowski attended a training meeting on crime-free rentals sponsored by Project Safe Neighborhoods. They have been working on a letter to send to landlords inviting them to become active with the VCNA. A realtor's letter will be constructed to be sent later in July. Safe neighborhoods with extra eyes and ears can extend a hand to the landlords. Thank you to all the landlords in our neighborhood who have been engaged in our efforts - we have had many come to our meetings and work with us.

Keep our yards pleasant

If grass is more than 10" tall, a yard mowing violation could be in order. Call the Lafayette Street Dept. for assistance: 807-1415.

Donations Accepted

At every meeting, the can is passed around for donations. Donations are used in support of producing the newsletter, sending letters to landlords, and promoting neighborhood events, etc. If you would like to help support these efforts, send a donation to

Mary Pilotte, VCNA Treasurer
107 Digby St.
Lafayette, IN 47905



WeTip
inc.
WWW.WETIP.COM

*Help keep our neighborhood safe - report crime to the
WeTip hotline at 1-800-782-7463. It's absolutely
anonymous*

Contact the VCNA:

www.valleycntr.com

Email: ValleyCenterNA@gmail.com

Phone: 429-5302 (John Lewandowski, president).

Join our email list! Send your email address to the address above for reminders of neighborhood events and notices of last-minute additions.

WeTip crime hotline: 1-800-782-7463 - Lafayette Police: 807-1200